## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office

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crowding out. My...the greatest motivation that I have has to do with the philosophical underpinnings of what we're doing, and whether we are being consistent philosophically, and it's not, it's not that I'm saying that these individuals are people who are on welfare, these are individuals who are working, who are trying to...trying not to be dependent on government benefits, trying to keep their families outside dependency. And in some cases, that their ability together their limited means may include providing insurance coverage. But we are going to make a system that is going to have the incentive for them to be reliant on a government And I don't think that that's what we want. we want something that for the individual, I think we want allows something that for some choice and self-determination on their part. For the part of our state I think we want to have the greatest flexibility, I think we want to have a public/private partnership, and I think we want to have an ability to manage as best as possible those costs so that we can continue to provide this, this coverage, even in light of a downturn in our economy. We...this program is The federal part of it is for five years. five vears. Next year we will be matching, at a state level, about \$8 million and there will be \$17 million of federal money coming to the state, and we are going to be able to provide health care coverage to a great number of children as a result of that. And I am delighted to say that we are able to provide care to health those children in our state that do not currently have it. I want us to be in a position that we can manage that money best as possible so if at the end of five years, if the federal match is no longer available, how are we going to be able to continue this coverage in the best way possible so that the two things that I...that are motivating me are, from an individual perspective...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR BROWN: ...are we providing the most self-determination, the most choice on those individual's part? Are we doing it in such a way that really helps transition them from reliance on a government program into them being able to control the health care of their family? And also, do we have the most flexible system that allows us, the state, to manage this in the best way